

Operator's Manual & Safety Instruction for

SNAPPER®

MODEL R8000

REAR TINE TILLERS

Thank you for buying a SNAPPER product! Your Tiller was designed and built to provide long and satisfactory service. Study this manual carefully before operating the Tiller and pay particular attention to the Important Safety Instructions below. Keep in mind that a Tiller, like any other mechanical device, can be potentially dangerous if used imprudently. Following the instructions in this and the engine manual will help you continue to enjoy the trouble-free operation expected of a SNAPPER.



IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Warning: This tilling machine is capable of causing personal injury! Failure to observe the following instructions could result in serious injury to the operator or persons in the operational area. Carefully read these instructions and be sure to question your Snapper Dealer if in doubt about anything. Should the Dealer not answer to your satisfaction, write or call the Snapper Customer Service Department at McDonough, Ga., 30253 (Phone 404-957-9141).

1. Become thoroughly familiar with all controls and learn how to stop tine rotation quickly in preparation for emergencies.
2. Never allow children or immature, uncoordinated or inexperienced persons to operate your tiller.
3. Keep everyone safely away from the area being tilled.
4. Be especially watchful for children and pets darting into the area while operating.
5. Wear protective clothing and appropriate shoes to provide best footing on uneven terrain.
6. Persons under the influence of alcohol or drugs must not be allowed to operate your tiller.
7. Stay alert, give complete and undivided attention to the job on hand.
8. Fill fuel tank only when engine is stopped and not hot. Fill outside where fumes can be safely dissipated.
9. Make sure clutch is disengaged before attempting to start.
10. Keep feet, hands and clothing safely away from tines at all times.
11. Disengage the tines and stop the engine before making any adjustments, attempting to clean or clear tines, or leaving the operator's position even momentarily!
12. Remember to avoid operating the engine in any enclosed area where deadly exhaust fumes could accumulate.

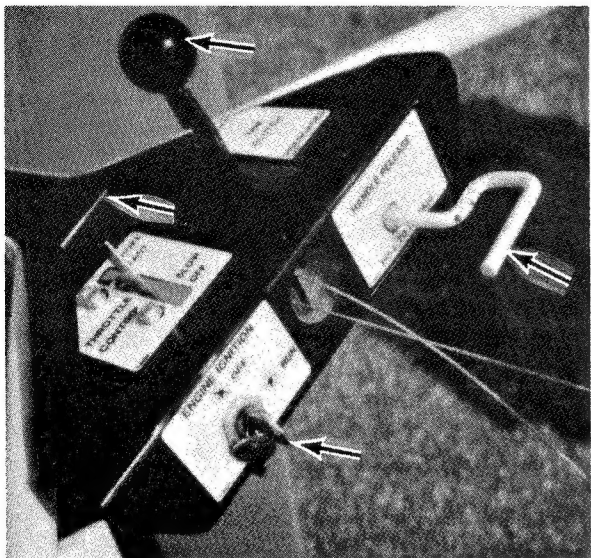


FIG. 2--PANEL CONTROLS

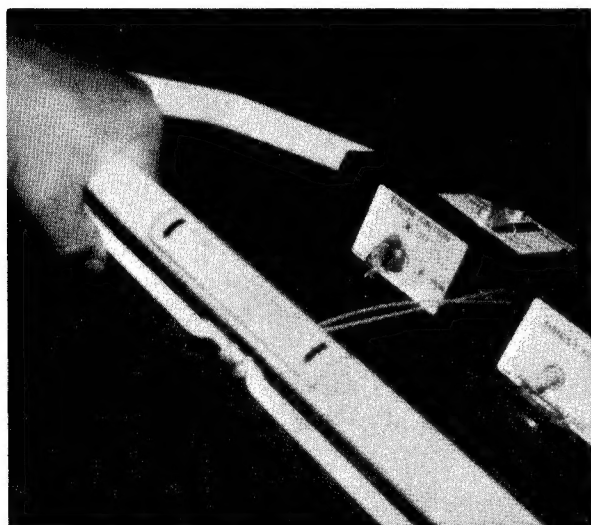


FIG. 3--CLUTCH CONTROL



FIG. 4--TRANSMISSION SHIFT LEVER

This manual covers the recommended operating procedures and routine service requirements for the Snapper model R8000 Rear Tine Tiller. Specific details involving the engine are found in the separate engine owner's manual. Study these manuals before operating and keep both handy for future reference.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Be thoroughly familiar with all controls and how to use them before operating your tiller. Make the following checks and perform the services as required before each start up.

PRE-START CHECK LIST

CHECK ENGINE OIL and bring level up to full (refer to engine manual for oil specifications).

CHECK AIR CLEANER and service according to instructions in Engine Manual.

CHECK EXTERNAL SURFACES and remove dirt, dust accumulation and clean tines as needed.

CHECK GUARDS to make sure all are in proper position and securely tightened.

FILL FUEL TANK where fumes will be safely dissipated. Refer to engine manual for fuel specifications.

STARTING-STOPPING

Know beforehand how to stop the tines, wheel drive and engine in preparation for possible emergencies. The engine is stopped by either moving the ENGINE IGNITION keyswitch to OFF or by pulling the engine THROTTLE CONTROL rearward to OFF. Tine rotation is stopped by either shifting the TINE CLUTCH control to disengaged position or by releasing the CLUTCH CONTROL which stops both the drive wheels and tine rotation even with the TINE CLUTCH in engaged position. Operate engine as follows:

STEP 1: Shift the transmission into #1 speed position, move the TINE CLUTCH into disengaged position and make sure CLUTCH CONTROL is in released position.

STEP 2: Insert the key and turn the ENGINE IGNITION switch to RUN POSITION.

STEP 3: On cold starts, move the engine THROTTLE CONTROL forward into CHOKE position.

STEP 4: Move around to right side of unit and pull ROPE STARTER on engine in smooth steady motion until engine starts. To prolong the life of the rope, guide the starter handle back to the engine rather than allowing it to snap back.

STEP 5: Allow brief engine warm-up period then move the engine THROTTLE CONTROL rearward to the desired FAST or SLOW speed setting. Refer to TILLING PROCEDURE section on next page.

STEP 6: To stop the engine, move the ENGINE IGNITION switch to OFF or pull the engine THROTTLE CONTROL rearward to OFF.

HANDLE BAR ADJUSTMENT

The handle bar can be moved horizontally from the center position to two positions on each side by pulling the **HANDLE RELEASE** control rearward and swinging the handle bar to the desired position. Push the **HANDLE RELEASE** toward the panel to lock in position. The handle bar can be raised or lowered by loosening the bolts with a 9/16" wrench as shown in figure 6. Securely tighten the bolts after adjusting

TRANSPORTING TO SITE

To avoid gouging the lawn or pavement, raise the tines to clear the surface before transporting the unit to the tilling site. Release the **CLUTCH CONTROL** and lift the tiller to take the weight off the skid arm then push it downward into the notch setting which will allow the tines to clear the surface. Pull the **CLUTCH CONTROL** back to the handle bar to engage the wheel drive and transport to the tilling site. Transport with **TINE CLUTCH** in disengaged position.

TILLING PROCEDURE

The R8000 is set-up in production in the reverse tine rotation mode. In this mode, the tines rotate in opposite direction of the drive wheels which is best for breaking sod or untilled ground and for tilling deep. Tine rotation can be changed to forward for cultivating and seed bed preparation--refer to the **TINE ROTATION SELECTION** section for details. Prepare for tilling as follows:

1. **SET HANDLE BAR** in desired position before engaging **CLUTCH CONTROL**.
2. **SET SKID ARM** in highest position for deepest tilling depth and intermediate notches for lesser depth. NOTE: If you are familiar with front tine tillers, this is opposite of the skid arm setting recommendations.
3. **SET SPEEDS** to begin tilling by shifting the transmission into #1 speed and moving the engine **THROTTLE CONTROL** to fast.
4. **BEGIN TILLING** by pushing **TINE CLUTCH** control to engaged position and pulling **CLUTCH CONTROL** back to handle. At the end of the row, disengage the **TINE CLUTCH** but hold the **CLUTCH CONTROL** to handle bar to continue the wheels driving while turning.
5. **TILLING HINTS:** Let the tiller do the work! Do not try to hold it back. A slight down pressure on the handle bar is usually all that is required to keep the tines firmly in the ground.
6. **ROUGH TERRAIN HINT:** If tilling over very rough, uneven ground, till at light depth setting on the first path to smooth the surface. On especially rough terrain, the tiller could hang up underneath with the wheels spinning free. Under this condition the transmission will be hard to shift. Rather than attempting to force the shift lever into reverse, lift the handle bar then turn the tiller diagonally across the rise to gain traction.



FIG. 5--SKID ARM DEPTH LEVER

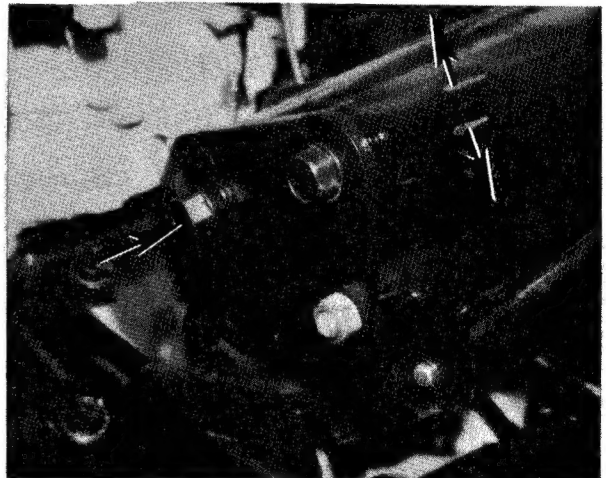


FIG. 6-- HANDLE HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT

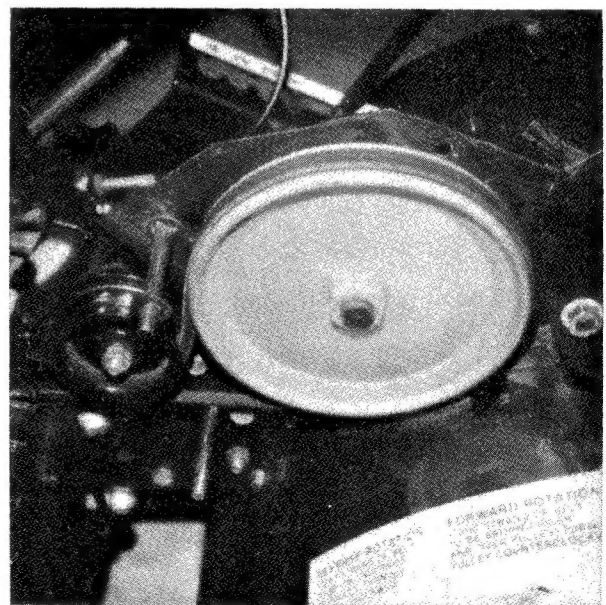


FIG. 7--BELT COVER SWUNG AWAY

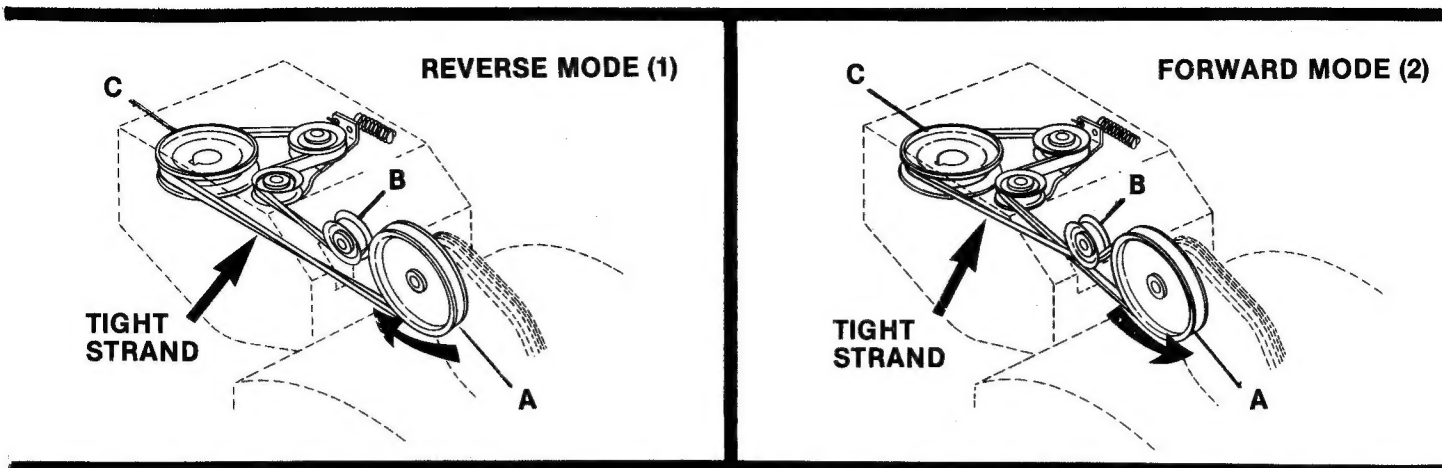


FIGURE 8 — TINE ROTATION BELT CHANGES

TINE ROTATION SELECTION

As received, the R8000 is set-up for reverse rotation which is best for breaking sod or new ground and for tilling deep. In this mode, the tines rotate in the reverse direction of the driving wheels. The direction of tine rotation is easily changed to forward mode for cultivating and seed bed preparation.

When in forward mode for cultivating between rows, the tines do not have to be switched from side to side, however, the Tiller will thus break previously tilled soil to a depth of only 1 or 2 inches. To dig untilled soil or to till deeper for seed bed preparation, switch the tines from right to left side.

CHANGE TINE ROTATION with engine off as follows: Remove the wing-nut and washer on the front stud of the belt cover, pull the cover outward over this stud then swing the cover rearward and out of the way over the belt pulley. With the clutch control released, there is sufficient slack to slip the belt off the pulley for changing the arrangement as shown in figure 8. In the original reverse rotation mode, the tight strand of the belt is between pulleys

identified A and C in the illustration while in forward mode, the tight strand is between pulleys C, B & A. After changing, swing the belt cover into position and secure with the washer and wingnut. **NOTE:** Extreme care must be taken to avoid double twisting the belt.

SERVICE

SERVICE PARTS & ASSISTANCE

To retain the original quality of your Tiller, use only genuine Snapper replacement parts. Specify the model and serial number as found on the nameplate of your Tiller when contacting your Snapper Dealer for parts or service assistance. Only numbers of certain routine service parts are listed in this manual. Your Snapper Dealer has a complete listing of all components. For engine parts, look for the engine manufacturer's dealers under the heading **ENGINES-gasoline** in the yellow pages of your telephone directory. Snapper Dealers are listed under **LAWN MOWERS**.



FIG. 9 - TILLER ON END

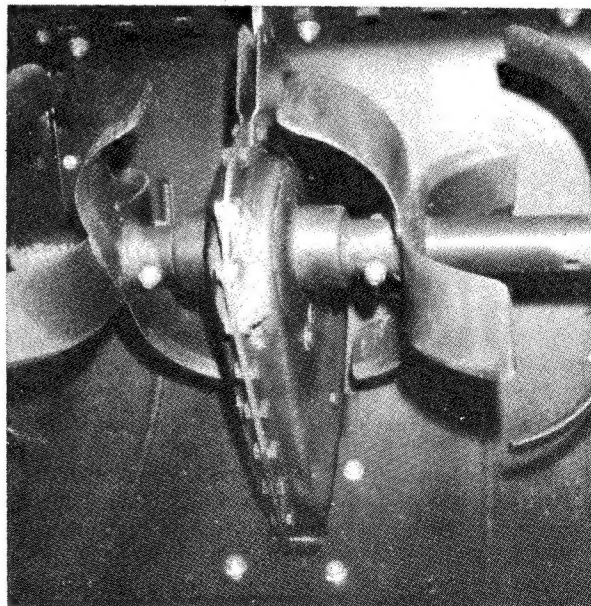


FIG. 10 - TINE DETAIL

STANDING TILLER ON END

Many of the services described in the following specify standing the tiller on end for easy access to components on the underside of the frame. The Tiller may also be stored during the off-season on the front stand-up bar. If the fuel tank is less than half full the fuel should not leak out of the filler cap. Take necessary steps to prevent fuel leakage before standing on end. If the tiller is stored on end for any length of time, check for oil leakage. **CAUTION:** Never stand the tiller on end with the engine running! Stop the engine and disconnect the spark plug wire to prevent accidental starting before standing on end.

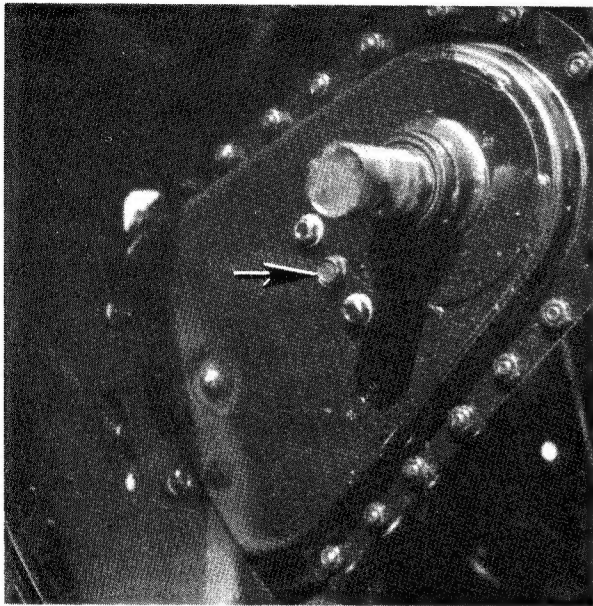


FIG. 11--CHAIN CASE OIL CHECK PLUG

SERVICE NOTE: Since a tiller normally operates under extremely dusty or dirty conditions, the air cleaner, engine oil and cooling fins must be serviced as specified in the engine manual at frequent intervals. The Tiller itself should be serviced as follows:

LUBRICATION-TILLER

CHAIN CASE: Check the level of the oil in the chain case each time the engine oil is changed. Check by removing the check plug and washer located just above the tine shaft. The level should be up to the edge of the opening. To add oil, remove the plastic plug on upper side of case, add Snapper OO grease as needed to bring level up to bottom edge of the check plug opening. The total capacity of the case is about 1 U.S. standard quart -- do not exceed this amount. Reinstall plugs and washer after checking.

REDUCTION GEAR CASE: This unit is pre-lubricated with Snapper OO grease and will not normally require additional lubrication. + 02.

MOVING POINTS: Grease shift lever, roller and cam on traction clutch yoke and other moving surfaces twice a year.

TILLER TINES

The tines are bolted securely to the tine shaft with one special hardened bolt (Snapper #9-0166) and locknut (9-0289) on each side. Keep spares on hand in case a bolt shears off or becomes lost while tilling.

The Snapper Tines are sharpened on front and rear edge for forward or reverse rotation. The point of the tines should be the leading edge under all conditions except when used in the forward mode for cultivating (Refer to TINE SELECTION for details).

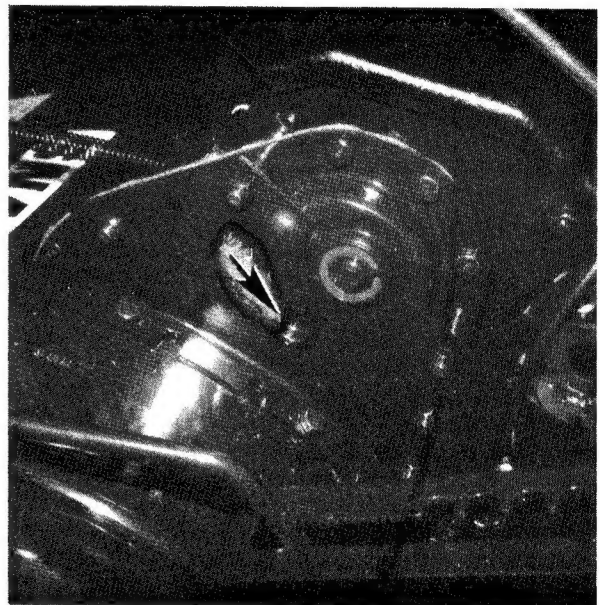


FIG. 12--CHAIN CASE OIL FILL

BELT ADJUSTMENT & REPLACEMENT

BELT TENSION ADJUSTMENT: Stand tiller on end and swing belt cover up to provide access to belt and idler. Pull clutch control to handle bar and observe where idler arm is positioned under the tiller frame. With the belt tight, the idler arm should be approximately parallel to the cross member. If at an angle, adjust idler at drive pulley by loosening capscrew and shifting position of idler until arm is pulled parallel to cross member when belt is tight. Retighten capscrew on idler after adjustment.

BELT REPLACEMENT: To replace belt, stand tiller on end, swing belt cover up to provide access to belt and idler, move shift lever between position R and 1. Remove nut and lockwasher from the V idler under frame then slide idler down bolt to allow slipping belt on and off the pulley. Remove belt by slipping off pulleys and pull out of the frame. To install replacement belt, thread belt thru opening in back of frame, route belt around engine pulley, idlers and belt guide then slide V idler back on bolt and secure with the lockwasher and nut removed earlier. Use care to insure that belt is kept straight over tiller pulley and idler and in desired tilling mode. Readjust belt tension as required.

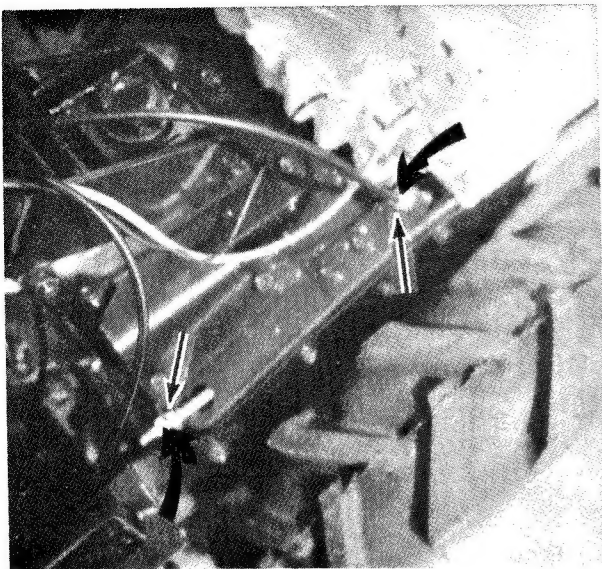


FIG. 13--CLUTCH LOWER ADJUSTMENTS

CLUTCH ADJUSTMENT

To check clutch adjustment, stand tiller on front end. Measure the length of both springs at the end of the control cables then move the CLUTCH CONTROL up to the handle bar and measure the extended length of both springs. When properly adjusted the springs should extend 1/4 to 1/2 inches when clutch is engaged. If adjustment is required, reposition the jam-nuts on the threaded ends of the cable conduits. One end of the conduit is located under the handle bar center panel and the others on the right side of the frame. The one in back is for tine rotation and the center is for wheel traction. To increase spring extension, turn the jam-nuts toward the end of cable or to decrease closer to the cable fittings. Additional clutch adjustment can be made if necessary at the idler under the belt cover--refer to BELT TENSION adjustment for this procedure.

CLUTCH TEST: Return tiller to wheels, start engine and pull CLUTCH CONTROL to handle bar then release and observe tines and wheel drive which should stop--if tines or wheels continue after clutch control is released, the clutch spring extension is too great. Readjust using the foregoing procedure.

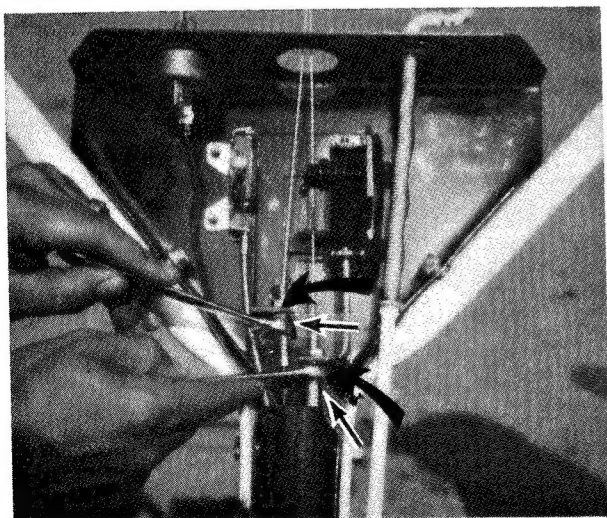


FIG. 14--CLUTCH UPPER ADJUSTMENTS

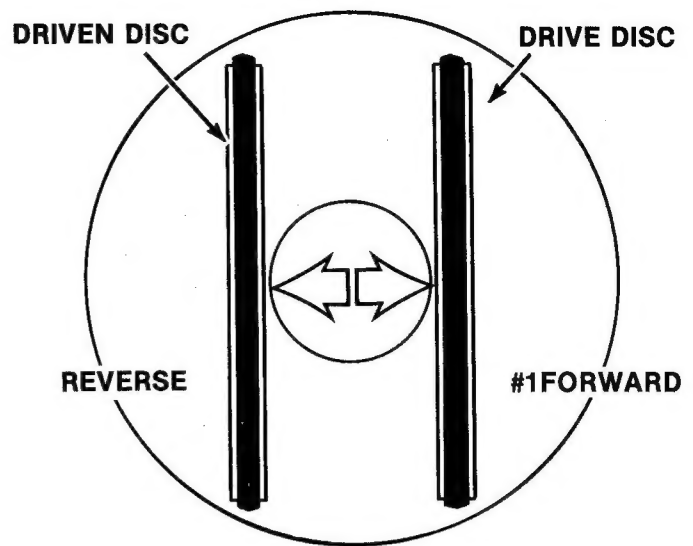


FIG. 15--DISC FORWARD & REVERSE POSITIONS

DRIVEN DISC SERVICE

If the wheels loose traction, stand the tiller on end and check the rubber driven disc. Poor traction could be caused by an excessively worn driven disc or by improper positioning of the disc. If the rubber disc appears in good condition, shift the transmission into reverse then into #1 forward position. In both settings, the rubber disc should be located outside of the indentation in the center of the metal drive disc. If the rubber disc rides on the edge of indentation in either setting, loosen the screws holding the shift detent to the frame then tilt the detent until the rubber disc is outside the edge of the indentation. Securely tighten the detent screws. The disc should be about equal distance from the outer edge of the indentation in both reverse and #1 positions when properly adjusted.

Replace the driven disc if worn unevenly or if worn down to the point where it no longer makes firm contact with the drive disc. To replace, remove the three flange nuts, slip the old disc off the hub then install the replacement and secure with the three flange nuts.

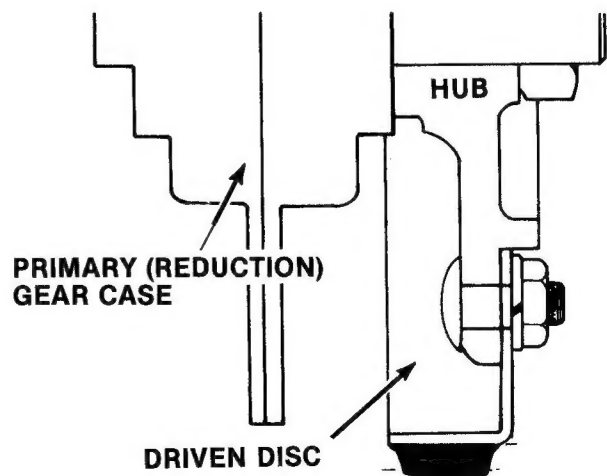


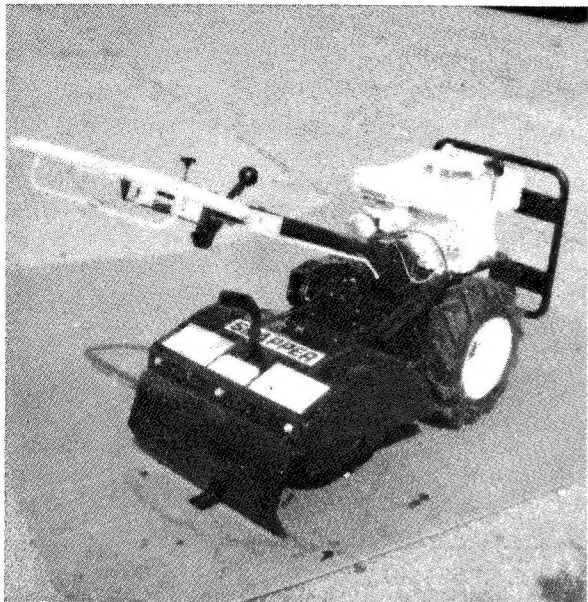
FIG. 16--DRIVEN DISC DETAIL

Thoroughly clean all external surfaces and tines before storing the Tiller. The Tiller may be stored on end, however, the following steps must be taken.

- Place small pan or towel on frame to catch the grease.

3. At the start of the new season, replenish engine crankcase oil and add gasoline to the fuel tank after returning the Tiller to its wheels.
4. Before starting, move the ENGINE CONTROL to OFF and pull rope starter slowly several times. If excessive resistance is felt, remove the spark plug and pull rope starter rapidly to spin the engine and clear oil from the cylinder. Clean and reinstall the spark plug before attempting to start the engine.

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TRACTOR CONVERSION & ACCESSORIES

The R8000 is easily converted to a walk behind tractor by disconnecting the tiller drive belt and pulling the clevis pin securing the tiller unit to the frame. With the tiller removed, the tractor will receive the following garden tool accessories. The garden tool accessories are available in kit form thru your Snapper Dealer. Hitch adapter kit #6-0567 is required for mounting the available kits.

- CULTIVATOR, 4-SPRING SHANK (KIT #6-0562)
- CULTIVATOR, 5-SWEEP (KIT #6-0561)
- CULTIVATOR, 5-SHOVEL (KIT #6-0560)
- MIDDLE BUSTER, 10" (KIT #6-0564)
- DISC HILLER (KIT #6-0563)
- HAULING TRAY (KIT #6-0559)

Contact your Snapper Dealer for specific details on these kits.

MANUFACTURER'S 1 YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

For 1 Year from purchase date for a non-commercial user, or for Thirty (30) days from purchase date for a commercial user, SNAPPER POWER EQUIPMENT, through any factory authorized service dealer, will replace for the original purchaser, free of charge, any part or parts found upon examination by the factory at McDonough, Georgia, to be defective in material or workmanship or both.

All transportation cost incurred by the purchaser in submitting material to an authorized service dealer for replacement under this warranty must be borne by the purchaser.

This warranty does not apply to engines and their components, as these items are warranted separately by their manufacturers. Neither does it apply to parts that have been damaged by accident, alteration, abuse, improper lubrication, normal wear, or other cause beyond our control.

There is no other express warranty.

Implied warranties, including those of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, are limited to one year from purchase date for non-commercial users, and for thirty (30) days from purchase for commercial users and to the extent permitted by law any and all implied warranties are excluded. This is the exclusive remedy. Liabilities for consequential damages under any and all warranties are excluded.

Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

WARNING: Use of replacement parts other than genuine SNAPPER parts may impair the safety of your tiller.

IMPORTANT: Please fill out the attached Snapper Product Registration Card and mail to:

SNAPPER POWER EQUIPMENT, McDONOUGH, GEORGIA 30253



SNAPPER POWER EQUIPMENT
McDonough, GA • 30253

